

New Ideas of Value to Car Workers

EVEN in these days of broad concrete highways, there still remains a vast mileage of dirt roads where it is easy to get stuck in a mud hole. Fig. 1 shows a simple way to get out of any mud hole, no matter how deep. Take a piece of two-by-four about two feet long and chain it to the front side of the tire in such a position that it will lie squarely across the rut. Start the car slowly and the wheel will ride up over the two-by-four. Then jam on the brake to prevent the wood from being carried up against the mud guard. It may be necessary, if the wheel is badly mired, to repeat the process. If you contemplate a trip during which you are likely to encounter muddy going, be sure to carry a piece of chain and a length of two-by-four in the tool kit.

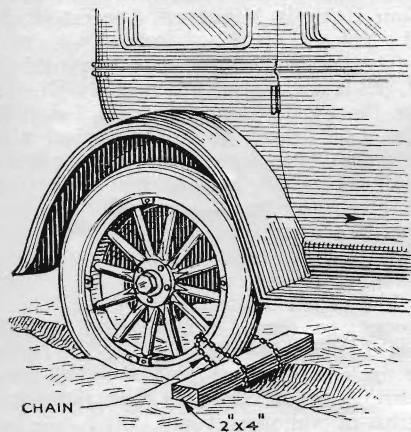


Fig. 1. A piece of two-by-four, chained to wheel, can be used in getting out of mud

Water Supply Tank

FOR week-end picnics, camping trips, and long tours through arid regions, a convenient water supply can be arranged by fitting a special tank to the running board. Procure a suitably shaped gasoline tank from an auto junk yard. Clean thoroughly with washing soda. Plug or patch unused openings and fit the tank with brackets and key type outlet as shown in Fig. 3. The advantage of the latter is that it requires pliers to draw water so children cannot easily open it. Being attached with only two bolts, it can be removed in a minute or two when not wanted.

Repairing Muffler

A SIMPLE, quick and lasting repair can be made to a muffler that has been blown out by a back-fire. Cut a strip of sheet asbestos several inches wider than

WIN A \$10 PRIZE

Each month we award \$10 for the best idea sent in for motorists. This month's prize goes to Wesley Kuhlmann, Woodcliff, N. J. (Fig. 3.) Contributions are requested from auto mechanics, both amateur and professional, and if published will be paid for.

the hole and long enough to go twice around. Cut a strip of galvanized sheet iron as wide as the asbestos and one and one half inches longer than the circumference of the muffler. Make a right angle bend at each end to form a bolt flange. Wrap the asbestos tightly around the muffler, center the hole, and bolt it in place with the galvanized iron band. This method of repair is of no value on a muffler that has rusted through.

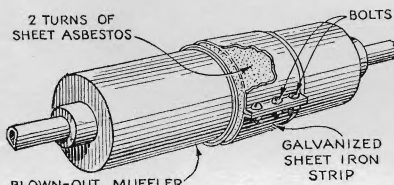


Fig. 2. Sheets of asbestos and galvanized iron give a lasting patch for blown-out muffler

Test for Leaks

THE simplest way to test a tube for leaks is to place it under water and watch for bubbles. However, the usual round tin tub or wooden wash tub takes up a lot of room. An excellent water container for this purpose is a section of a large truck tire attached to the wall as shown in

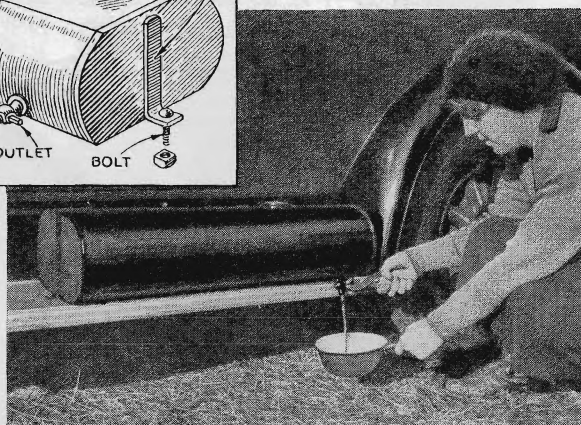
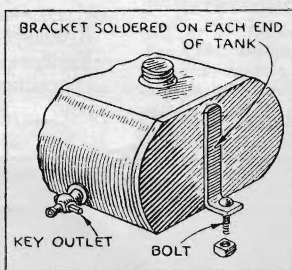


Fig. 3. Old gasoline tank fastened to running board makes an excellent container for water when on a picnic

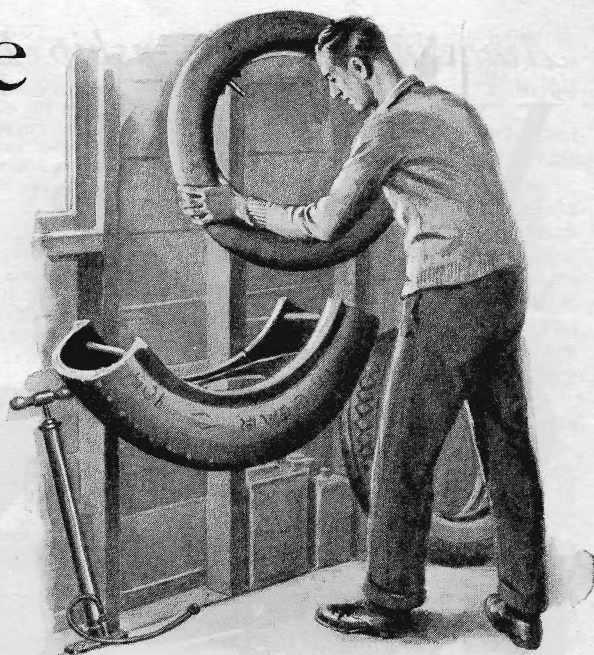


Fig. 4. Section cut from a large truck tire can be used as water container in which to test inner tubes for leaks

Fig. 4. It takes up little space and its shape matches that of the partly inflated tube. Wooden struts should be used to spread the beads to the proper width. A suitable section of a blown-out truck tire can be obtained at little expense from the nearest auto junk yard.

To Hold Up Hood

WITH many types of cars, it is impossible to raise both sides of the

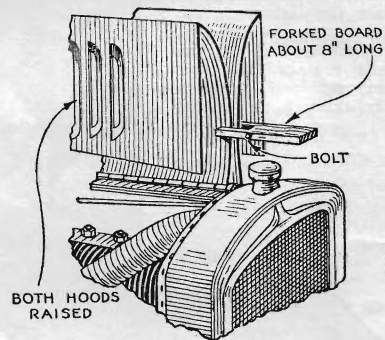


Fig. 5. Forked board, used as in the drawing, makes it possible to raise both sides of hood

hood at once whenever there is any repair work to be done. However, it is possible to get the desired result by the use of a forked board as shown in Fig. 5. An ordinary clothespin could be used, of course, but the weight of the hood might split it, allowing the sides to crash down. Note that the forked board should be reinforced with a cross bolt to eliminate this danger. If the car has an extra long hood it is desirable to make two forks so that one can be used to hold the hood sections together at each end. Do not attempt to make these forks out of light soft wood as they will not be strong enough for the purpose, but use well seasoned hardwood.